United Nations S/PV.4001

Security Council

Fifty-fourth Year

Provisional

4001st Meeting
Friday, 14 May 1999, 11.25 p.m.
New York

President:	Mr. Dangue Réwaka	(Gabon)
Members:	Argentina	Mr. Petrella
	Bahrain	Mr. Buallay
	Brazil	Mr. Moura
	Canada	Mr. Duval
	China	Mr. Qin Huasun
	France	Mr. Dejammet
	Gambia	Mr. Jagne
	Malaysia	Mr. Hasmy
	Namibia	Mr. Andjaba
	Netherlands	Mr. van Walsum
	Russian Federation	Mr. Granovsky
	Slovenia	Mr. Türk
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Sir Jeremy Greenstock
	United States of America	Mr. Burleigh

Agenda

Letter dated 7 May 1999 from the Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/1999/523)

99-85366 (E)

This record contains the original text of speeches delivered in English and interpretations of speeches delivered in the other languages. The final text will be printed in the *Official Records of the Security Council*. Corrections should be submitted to original speeches only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and be sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned, *within one week of the date of publication*, to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room C-178.

The meeting was called to order at 11.25 p.m.

Expression of sympathy to the Government and people of the People's Republic of China

The President (*spoke in French*): At the outset of the meeting, I should like, on behalf of the Security Council, to express deep sympathy and profound condolences to the Government and people of China, as well as to the families of the three victims of the tragic incident that occurred in the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Belgrade on 7 May 1999.

I now invite members to stand and observe a minute of silence in their memory.

The members of the Council observed a minute of silence.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

Letter dated 7 May 1999 from the Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/1999/523)

The President (*spoke in French*): In accordance with the decisions taken at the 4000th meeting, held on 8 May 1999, I invite the representatives of Albania, Belarus, Cuba, India, Iraq and Ukraine to take the seats reserved for them at the side of the Council Chamber; I invite Mr. Vladislav Jovanović to take a seat at the Council table.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Nesho (Albania), Mr. Sychou (Belarus), Mr. Rodríguez Parrilla (Cuba), Mr. Sharma (India), Mr. Hasan (Iraq) and Mr. Yel'chenko (Ukraine) took the seats reserved for them at the side of the Council Chamber; Mr. Jovanović took a seat at the Council table.

The President (*spoke in French*): The Security Council will now resume its consideration of the item on its agenda.

I should like to draw the attention of the members of the Council to the following documents: S/1999/529, letter dated 9 May 1999 from the Chargé d'affaires *ad interim* of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council; S/1999/530, letter dated 10 May 1999 from the Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council; and S/1999/541, letter dated 10 May 1999 from the Permanent Representative of the Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council.

Following consultations among members of the Security Council, I have been authorized to make the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council recalls the press statement by the President on 8 May 1999 and expresses its deep distress and concern over the bombing of the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia on 7 May 1999, which has caused serious casualties and property damage. The Council expresses its deepest sympathy and profound condolences to the Chinese Government and families of the victims.

"The Security Council expresses profound regrets over the bombing and deep sorrow for the loss of lives, injuries and property damage caused by the bombing, and notes that regrets and apologies were expressed for this tragedy by members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). The Council, bearing in mind the Charter of the United Nations, reaffirms that the principle of the inviolability of diplomatic personnel and premises must be respected in all cases in accordance with internationally accepted norms.

"The Security Council stresses the need for a complete and thorough investigation of the bombing by NATO. In this connection, it takes note of the fact that an investigation has been initiated by NATO and awaits the results of the investigation.

"The Security Council will remain seized of the matter."

This statement will be issued as a document of the Security Council under the symbol S/PRST/1999/12.

The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on the agenda.

The meeting rose at 11.30 p.m.